



# BIOGRAPHY



## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

### COLONEL JOHN J. MODRA JR.

Colonel John J. Modra Jr. is the Commander of the 959th Inpatient Operations Squadron, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas. He leads a team of more than 560 active duty Airmen embedded in 21 inpatient units at Brooke Army Medical Center, the DoD's largest Military Treatment Facility, and the only Level-1 trauma center. The squadron supports 425 beds with 11,000 patients admitted per year and serves 240,000 beneficiaries. Units include the Emergency Department, Labor and Delivery, Inpatient Mental Health, 5 ICUs, the Neonatal ICU, and 9 Medical/Surgical units. The squadron directly supports clinical and readiness training platforms and continuously deploys personnel on 15 UTCs supporting AEF missions worldwide. Additionally, the squadron oversees the Air Force's largest Nurse Residency Program as well as the second largest Upgrade Training program.

Colonel Modra graduated from West Liberty State College, West Liberty, West Virginia in 1996. He worked one year as a civilian nurse and received a direct commission into the Air Force as a Second Lieutenant in 1997. His background includes Medical/Surgical, Ortho/Neuro, Emergency Services, Ambulatory Care, and Executive Leadership. Colonel Modra holds a National Board Certification in Emergency Nursing accredited by the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification. He earned his Master's Degree in Emergency and Disaster Management through Touro University International, Cypress, California in 2008. Colonel Modra has deployed five times in support of Operations SOUTHERN WATCH, Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, and Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. He last deployed in 2011 with the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan as a combat advisor to the host nation Chief Nurse at the Kandahar Regional Military Hospital. He and his wife have been married for 23 years and have 2 daughters. Prior to his current position, the Colonel completed his Master of Strategic Studies from Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base (AFB), Ala.



### EDUCATION

1996 Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing, West Liberty State College, West Liberty, W. Va.  
2002 Critical Care Air Transport Team Course, Brooks City Base, San Antonio, Texas  
2005 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.  
2007 CJ Reddy Leadership Conference, Washington D.C.  
2008 Master of Science Health Sciences in Emergency/Disaster Management, Touro University International, by correspondence  
2008 Nursing Service Management, Sheppard AFB, Texas  
2011 Intermediate Executive Skills, San Antonio, Texas  
2011 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence  
2012 Air Force Medical Operations Agency Education and Training Fellowship, San Antonio, Texas  
2018 Air War College, Master of Strategic Studies, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

1. November 1997 – December 1998, Clinical Nurse, Surgical Unit, Andrews Air Force Base (AFB), Md.
2. December 1998 – July 2001, Clinical Nurse, Emergency Services, Andrews AFB, Md.
3. July 2001 – August 2004, Clinical Nurse, Emergency Services, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska (November 2002-June 2003, Clinical Nurse, 40th Expeditionary Medical Group, Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory)
4. August 2004 – November 2006, Clinical Nurse, Emergency Services, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio (April 2005-September 2005, Ground Critical Care Nurse, 386th Air Expeditionary Wing (AEW), Ali Al Salem Air Base (AB), Kuwait)
5. November 2006 – January 2008, Assistant Nurse Manager, Emergency Services, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio (January 2007-May 2007, Ground Critical Care Nurse, 386th AEW, Ali Al Salem AB, Kuwait)
6. January 2008 – July 2008, Nurse Manager, Emergency Service, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
7. July 2008 – July 2012, Flight Commander, Family Health Clinic, Shaw AFB, S.C. (December 2009-June 2010, Flight Commander, Intensive Care Ward, 455th AEW, Bagram, Afghanistan and December 2011-June 2012, Advisor, Regional Support Command-South, 451st AEW, Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan.
8. July 2012 – July 2013, Education and Training (E&T) Fellow IDE-E, Air Force Medical Operations agency (AFMOA), Joint Base San Antonio, Lackland-Kelly AFB, Texas
9. July 2013 – July 2015, E&T Senior Program manager, AFMOA, Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA), Lackland-Kelly AFB, Texas
10. July 2015 – July 2017, Commander, 90th Medical Operations Squadron, F. E. Warren AFB, Wyo.
11. July 2017 – July 2018, Chief Nurse, 30th Medical Group, Vandenberg AFB, CA
12. July 2018 – May 2019, SDE Student, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
13. June 2019 – present, Commander, 959th Inpatient Operations Squadron, JBSA, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

## **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters  
Air Force Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters  
Army Commendation Medal  
Air Force Achievement Medal  
Joint Meritorious Unit Award  
Meritorious Unit Award with two Oak Leaf Clusters  
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor Device and one Silver Leaf Cluster  
National Defense Service Medal  
Afghanistan Campaign Medal with one Bronze Star  
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal  
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal  
Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal  
Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon, Gold Border with three Oak Leaf Clusters

## **OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS**

Board Certification in Emergency Nursing

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS**

Emergency Nurses Association  
Association for Nursing Professional Development

## **EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION**

Second Lieutenant March 1, 1997  
First Lieutenant March 1, 1999  
Captain March 1, 2001  
Major April 1, 2009  
Lieutenant Colonel October 1, 2014  
Colonel May 1, 2019

(Current as of October 2019)